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ABSTRACT

This book investigates how geopolitical changes are influencing language teaching in general and the cultural dimension in particular and discusses the pedagogical opportunities such changes offer teachers and learners. The book views foreign language teaching as having a strong political character that responds to the social and political changes of the contemporary world. This is particularly evident in the cultural dimension of language teaching through which learners are introduced to other countries and their values and beliefs. The book demonstrates the importance of these issues for all language teachers by investigating the effect of major social and political change in Denmark and England. Chapter titles include the following: "European Integration and the European Dimension: Teachers' Views"; "European Integration: Political and Educational Trends"; "The Cultural Dimension in Foreign Language Education"; "Teachers' Views on the Cultural Dimension"; "Stereotypes, Prejudices, and Tolerance"; "Learning By Experience: Contacts Abroad"; and "New Relationships between Language and Culture--the Way Forward." Four appendices containing a written survey instrument, oral interview questions, and two summaries of supplementary empirical data, as well as extensive references are included. (KFT)

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